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Venier et al.

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(54) **SMALL DEVICE LAUNCH SYSTEM**

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1.81

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system for providing pressurized fluid for a small device launch system is shown. The system includes a piston housing an air source aperture, a launcher bore, and a shaft aperture. A piston and piston shaft slide in the chamber with the piston shaft extending out the shaft aperture. A hydraulic control cylinder is connected to the piston shaft and a controller is joined to control the cylinder. In a preferred embodiment, the controller controls flow through a variable restriction valve positioned in hydraulic communication between sides of the hydraulic cylinder. A position indicator can also be provided for communicating the position of the piston shaft to the controller.

12 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

